-One bright and cheerful day is broken up once again by the meaningless chatter of yet another word brawl between those Montagues and Capulets. All the townspeople are minding their business when three gentlemen (Mercutio and Romeo Montague along with Tybalt Capulet) come down the street feuding over the fight that was going to happen between Romeo and Tybalt in the mere future. “From a servant’s point of view, the fact that Tybalt wanted to fight Romeo sounded like a challenge to Mercutio.” This quoted by a nearby witness named Alfonso Quentin, a town gentleman who was near this brawl. As it turned out, this statement by Tybalt was indeed a challenge to Mercutio to take action.

Mercutio indeed did take action. When the two servents of the repective families did draw swords, the situation was very tense in the area they were in. Nearby witness Fabio Cheeks quotes, “You could hear the tension rising from the first sound of their swords being drawn from their scabbards.” Romeo seeing this unfold had mixed feelings as to what to do. “My mind was going all places except for the matter at hand. At the last minute my mind came to its senses and I finally broke it up, but it wasn’t good enough apparently.” Mr. Montague was right. When the two servants, both hot-headed and ready to duel to the death, went at each other Romeo stepped in to hopefully break it up. Romeo did step in front, but didn’t separate the two with enough authority. Tybalt then reaches under Romeo’s outstretched arms and stabs Mercutio. Tybalt, satisfied with his victory retreats in satisfaction. Romeo, angered by the death of his cousin (Mercutio), fatally stabs Tybalt in the back. This stab by Romeo ends this brawl in the streets.

A few long minutes later, the Prince Escalus is arriving on the same street the brawl took place. The 4th member of the party that was brawling but didn’t brawl was Benvolio Montague. While witnessing this brawl, “The thought of how much trouble I will get into by Lord Montague sank in before I made the decision to engage in combat.” Overall, Benvolio was confused during this scrum took place. When Benvolio eyes the Prince in the streets, he rushes to him to tell him all about the fight. While Benvolio speaks of the fight, he makes sure to carefully emphasize the fact that Romeo made many attempts to keep the peace between Mercutio and Tybalt. Overhearing this conversation is Lady Capulet, who then complains to the Prince that Benvolio only emphasizes for Romeo to protect the Montague family. Lady Capulet is so distraught that she demands Romeo’s life as soon as possible. Instead of choosing sides, the Prince demands Romeo be banished from the city and sent to live in Verona. Also, the Prince declared that if Romeo Montague be found within the city’s walls, he will be put to death. After the consequences were dealt, the Prince was asked to answer some questions, saying, “No further answers, thank you.”

-By: Cameron Henry